(c) what will be the net outcome of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No, sir.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

उत्तर प्रदेश में पर्वतीय प्रदेश में नए डाकघर

1298. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय प्रदेश गढ़वाल और कुमाऊं मण्डलों में डाक सेवाओं को मजबूत बनाने के लिए वहां नए डाकघर/उप-डाकघर स्थापित करने का विचार कर रही है।;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कबीन्द्र पुरकायस्थ): (क) और (ख) जी हां, चालू वार्षिक योजना अर्थात् 1998-99 में गढ़वाल रेवेन्यू डिवीजन में 1 (एक) विभागीय उप डाकघर और 4 अतिरिक्त विभागीय शाखा डाकघर तथा कुमाऊं रेवेन्यू डिवीजन में 3 अतिरिक्त विभागीय शाखा डाकघर खोलने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है। बशर्ते कि संसाधन उपलब्ध रहें।

(ग) उपर्युक्त (क) और (ख) को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Privatisation of Postal Services

1299. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether postal services are to be privatised partially; and

(b) if so, the details thereof especially in respect of postal agencies in the Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) Participation of the private sector in postal services has been marginal and that too in the role of augumenting the efforts of the Department to provide basic postal facilities in the needy areas. Private agencies have been participating in identified area of activity like sale of stamps and stationery, transportation of mail and provision of additional public facilities at a few places, like Post Shoppe. In Andhra Pradesh also activities like sale of postage stamps and stationery through licensed stamp vendors is in vogue.

Popularisation of Internet for Educational Purpose

1300. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government to make the internet more popular for educational purpose;

(b) whether Government would consider providing the internet connection at cheaper rates to the educational institutions; and

(c) how many educational institutions have 64 KPBS connections State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) The internet access on dial up basis is available on concessional bssis for the students of class XI & above for which only Rs. 500/- are charged as the Annual (or 500 Hrs. whichever is earlier) usage charges. Further w.e.f. 1.1.98 the educational Institutions are charged Rs. 4 lacs per annum instead of the normally charged Rs. 8 lacs per annum for the 64 KPBS port. The relevant Circulars are annexed herewith as Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Information is at Statement-II.

Statement-I

Copy of the letter No. 111-1/195PHC Dt. 16.3.1998.

Sub: Concessional Internet access service for students.

Reference is invited to this office

letter of even number dated the 8th August, 1996 vide which tariff for Internet service was conveyed.

It has now been decided to extend concessional Internet access service for students as per the following tariff at all Internet nodes.

Name of service: 2.4 Kbps Terminal Dialup Service.

Registration fee	—Nil
Annual (or 500 hours whichever is earlier) usage charge	Rs. 500/-
Password alteration/ reintroduction fee	Rs.100/- each time.

Students of Class XI and above can avail this service by registering in the prescribed form. Verification of the bonafides of students will be done from certificate signed by the Principal or Head of the recognised academic (non-commercial) institution to the effect that the person concerned is a full time student of the said institution and is likely to remain a student for the academic year. The certificate should mention identity card number of the student issued by that institution and the Government/authority by whom the institution itself recognised. Such certificate will be required at every renewal of the subscription of Internet Service.

Copy of letter No. 111-1/95(Vol. II) dated 3.7.1998

Sub: Reduction of tariff for Internet leased line ports.

In order to promote Internet services as well as software exports and based on the Government's decisions in this regard, the tariff for Internet leased line ports of various capacities have been reviewed and it has been decided to fix the annual tariff as follows:

Speed of port	Annual charges (Rs. in lakhs)	
	Existing	Revised
2.4 kbps	1.5	1.1
9.6 kbps	6.0	4.5
64 kbps	12.0	8.0
128 kbps	18.0	13.0
256 kbps	25.0	18.0
512 kbps	36.0	26.0
1 Mbps	60.0	43.0
2 Mbps	100.00	72.0

Installation and testing charges of Rs. 10,000/- as applicable for 64 kbps port will also be applicable to data rates upto 2 Mbps.

Tariff for leased ports for recognised eduational institutions/organisations/newspapers/news agencies for 64 kbps port will continue to be Rs. 4 lacs per annum. However, for higher speeds, N×64 kbps tariff will be charged where N is the multiplication factor to arrive at the desired speed. Wherever the charge by applying N×64 kbps tariff becomes higher than the promotional tariffs of the same port speed, lower of the two shall be charged.

The existing concession of 20% to software exporters and to 100% EOUs will continue to be applicable on the new tariffs.

For leased lines to promote Internet service and software exporters the tariff for leased lines has been fixed as below:

Tariff for 64 kbps, 2 Mbps leased date circuits:

Name of circuit	Chargeable distance	Tariff per annum	
		Existing	Revised
64 Kbps	Upto 50 kms	Rs. 1,87,500	Rs, 1,50,000
	51 — 100 kms	Rs. 2,25,000	Rs. 1,80,000
	101 — 200 kms	Rs. 3,43,750	Rs. 2,75,000
	201 — 1000 kms	Rs. 1,125 per km subejct to a minimum of Rs. 3.75 lakhs	Rs. 900/- per km subject to a minimum of Rs. 3.0 lakhs.
	Beyond 1000 kms	Rs. 11.25 lakhs+ @Rs. 562.50 per km subject to a max. of 1500 kms. (Rs. 14,06,250)	Rs. 9.0 lakhs+ @ Rs. 450/- per km subject to a max. of 1500 kms (Rs. 11,25,500).
2 Mbps	Upto 50 kms	Rs. 15.0 lakhs	Rs. 12.0 lakhs
	51 — 100 kms	Rs. 20.0 lakhs	Rs. 16.0 lakhs
	101 — 200 kms	Rs. 30.0 lakhs	Rs. 24.0 lakhs
	201 — 1000 kms	Rs. 5375/- per km subejct to a minimum of Rs. 37.5 lakhs	Rs. 4300/- per km subject to a minimum of Rs. 30.0 lakhs.
	Beyond 1000 kms	Rs. 53.75 lakhs+ @ Rs. 2687.50 per km subject to max. of 1500 kms (Rs. 67,18,750).	Rs. 43.00 lakhs+ @ Rs. 2150 per km subject to a max. of 1500 kms (Rs. 53,75,000).

This revised tariff would be applicable w.e.f. 1.1.1998.

This issues with the concurrence of TRAI.

Statement-II

Copy of letter No. 111-I/95PHC (Vol. II) Dated 6.10.1998.

Sub: Clarification to order of even No. dated 3.7.98

It may be noted that the revised tariffs for 64 Kbps and 2 Mbps leased lines on page 2 of even No. dated 3.7.98, are applicable only for the leased lines used for Internet access and software exporters.

Name of State	No. of 64 Kbps Internet connections to Educational institutions
1	2
Tamil Nadu	10
UP (West)	1
UP (East)	3
Karnataka	4
Andhra Pradesh	3

1	2
Maharashtra	3
Bihar	1
Haryana	—
Rajasthan	1
Gujarat	—
Himachal Pradesh	—
West Bengal	—
Madhya Pradesh	—
Kerala	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—
North Eastern	—
Orissa	—
Punjab	—
Assam	—
Delhi	5

Commemorative stamps of Tercecntenary of Birth of Khalsa

1301. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA: Will the Minister OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue commemorative stamps on the occasion of the tercentenary of the birth of Khalsa in April, 1999 and also to put up an exhibition of commemorative stamps issued so far about the Sikh Gurus and important histrical Sikh personalities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A special commemorative stamp on the tercentenary of the birth of Khalsa has been approved for issue on 14.4.99 An exhibition of special/commemorative stamps relating to Punjab and Sikh Gurus, is also being arranged by CPMG Punjab, in coordination with the state authorities.

Telephone facilities to sub-divisional headquarters

1302. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide telephone facilities to sub-divisional headquarters in the country;

(b) the date from which above facilities will be provided;

(c) what is the number of sub-divisional headquarters in the State of Gujarat where telephone facility has not yet been provided; and

(d) the time by which telephone facilities are likely to be provided to these sub-divisional headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. 1210 Sub-divisional headquarters out of a total of 1230 were provided with telephone facilities in the country upto 30.11.98.

(c) and (d) All the 46 Sub-divisional headquarters have already been provided telephone facilities in the State of Gujrat.

Insufficient money order counters in post offices of Ludhiana

1303. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that long queues of migrated people can be seen in post offices in Punjab particularly in Ludhiana waiting for hours together for sending money orders to their families;

(b) if so, whether Government would contemplate for increasing the number of money order counters in post offices or open new post offices exclusively for the purpose in Ludhiana; and

(c) the number of post offices in Ludhiana at present?